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**Forest-Range Resource Statistics  
for  
Southwest Louisiana Parishes**

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# Forest-Range Resource Statistics for Southwest Louisiana Parishes

Herbert S. Sternitzke and Henry A. Pearson

This report tabulates information from the first forest-range inventory of southwest Louisiana. It should be helpful to resource managers in land-use planning and to policymakers in formulating programs for the production of goods and services from forest-range lands.

The data were secured by a systematic sampling method involving a forest-nonforest classification on aerial photographs and on-the-ground measurements of specified timber and range data at sample locations. The sample locations were at the intersections of a grid of lines spaced 3 miles apart. A detailed description of the methods, rationale, and reliability of integrated forest-range inventories conducted by the Southern Forest Experiment Station will be found in volume 27 (September 1974) of the Journal of Range Management.

Statistical analysis of the data indicates a sampling error of plus or minus 0.5 percent for the estimate of the area of total forest range. As the total is broken down by various subdivisions, the possibility of error increases and is greatest for the smallest items. The order of this increase is suggested in the following tabulation, which shows the sampling error to which the estimates of area are liable, two chances out of three:

Area of forest range Thousand acres	Sampling error <sup>1</sup> Percent
4,538.4	0.5
1,134.6	1.0
283.6	2.0
126.1	3.0
70.9	4.0
45.4	5.0
11.3	10.0
5.0	15.0
2.8	20.0
1.8	25.0

<sup>1</sup> By random-sampling formula.

## DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

*Animal unit.*—Considered to be one mature cow with calf or their equivalent.

*Animal unit month.*—The amount of feed or forage required by an animal unit for 1 month.

*Browse.*—That part of current leaf and twig growth of shrubs, woody vines, and trees available for animal consumption.

*Burned forest range.*—Areas that show evidence of burning within the past 3 years.

*Condition class.*—A classification of the current departure of the herbaceous vegetation (or desirable browse) composition from the potential that a forest-range ecosystem is capable of supporting when grazing is excluded. Condition classes are expressed as (1) Excellent; (2) Good; (3) Fair; (4) Poor; and (5) Very Poor.

*Ecosystem.*—All listed ecosystems correspond to the Forest Service forest-range environmental study (FRES) ecosystems. A complete description of the vegetation of each FRES ecosystem is contained in: The Nation's Range Resources—A Forest-Range Environmental Study. USDA Forest Service Forest Resource Report 19, 147 p. 1972.

*Foliage cover.*—The relative amount of herbage or browse on an area expressed in terms of percent of foliage ground cover.

*Forest range.*—Forest land that is producing or capable of producing vegetation grazable by livestock. Excludes forest land withdrawn from commercial utilization through statute or administrative regulation.

*Grazed forest range.*—Areas grazed by livestock.

*Growing-stock volume.*—Net volume in cubic feet of growing-stock trees at least 5.0 inches in diameter at breast height, from a 1-foot stump to a minimum of 4.0-inch top diameter, or to the point where the central stem breaks into limbs.

*Herbage.*—Flowering plants except those developing persistent woody stems above ground. Includes grasses, grasslike plants, and forbs.

*Livestock.*—Domestic animals.

*Productivity class.*—A classification of inherent wood producing capacity. High, areas with a capacity to produce at least 120 cubic feet of wood per acre per year; moderately high, 85 to 119; moderately low, 50 to 84; and low, less than 50.

*Stand-size class.*—A classification based on the size class of growing-stock trees on an area; that is, saw-

timber, poletimber, or seedlings and saplings.

*Tree cover.*—A measure of the extent to which the growth potential of a site is utilized by trees.

*Utilization.*—A classification of the intensity of forest-range used by livestock and/or wildlife on herbage and/or browse. Light, areas on which less than 35 percent of the plants are grazed; moderate, 35-70 percent; and heavy, more than 70 percent.

Table 1. *Area of forest range by ecosystem and ownership class, Southwest Louisiana, 1974*

Ecosystem	All ownerships	Public	Forest industry	Other private
- - - - Thousand acres - - - -				
Longleaf-slash pine	737.9	101.7	282.1	354.1
Loblolly-shortleaf pine	1,574.6	236.3	517.5	820.8
Oak-pine	815.7	124.0	241.3	450.4
Oak-hickory	588.9	25.7	190.4	372.8
Oak-gum-cypress	793.4	116.6	153.0	523.8
Elm-ash-cottonwood	27.9	...	5.5	22.4
All ecosystems	4,538.4	604.3	1,389.8	2,544.3

Table 2. *Area of grazed and ungrazed forest range by ecosystem and burning history, Southwest Louisiana, 1974*

Ecosystem	All areas	Grazed			Ungrazed		
		Total	Burned	Unburned	Total	Burned	Unburned
- - - - Thousand acres - - - -							
Longleaf-slash pine	737.9	536.8	273.8	263.0	201.1	62.6	138.5
Loblolly-shortleaf pine	1,574.6	882.0	175.5	706.5	692.6	27.7	664.9
Oak-pine	815.7	390.4	75.0	315.4	425.3	16.8	408.5
Oak-hickory	588.9	284.3	57.1	227.2	304.6	34.0	270.6
Oak-gum-cypress	793.4	334.9	6.2	328.7	458.5	...	458.5
Elm-ash-cottonwood	27.9	5.5	...	5.5	22.4	...	22.4
All ecosystems	4,538.4	2,433.9	587.6	1,846.3	2,104.5	141.1	1,963.4

Table 3. *Area of grazed and ungrazed forest range by ownership class and burning history, Southwest Louisiana, 1974*

Ownership	All areas	Grazed			Ungrazed		
		Total	Burned	Unburned	Total	Burned	Unburned
- - - - Thousand acres - - - -							
Public	604.3	309.1	95.7	213.4	295.2	29.2	266.0
Forest industry	1,389.8	825.6	153.9	671.7	564.2	33.6	530.6
Other private	2,544.3	1,299.2	338.0	961.2	1,245.1	78.3	1,166.8
All ownerships	4,538.4	2,433.9	587.6	1,846.3	2,104.5	141.1	1,963.4

Table 4. Area of forest range by ecosystem and livestock presence,  
Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Ecosystem	All areas	None	Cattle	Cattle and other	Other livestock only
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -					
Longleaf-slash pine	737.9	201.1	458.8	60.5	17.5
Loblolly-shortleaf pine	1,574.6	692.6	820.1	61.9	...
Oak-pine	815.7	425.3	321.0	64.0	5.4
Oak-hickory	588.9	304.6	261.5	17.2	5.6
Oak-gum-cypress	793.4	458.5	257.5	38.5	38.9
Elm-ash-cottonwood	27.9	22.4	5.5	...	...
All ecosystems	4,538.4	2,104.5	2,124.4	242.1	67.4

Table 5. Area of forest range by ownership class and livestock presence, Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Ownership	All areas	None	Cattle	Cattle and other	Other livestock only
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -					
Public	604.3	295.2	284.0	10.6	14.5
Forest industry	1,389.8	564.2	675.8	126.8	23.0
Other private	2,544.3	1,245.1	1,164.6	104.7	29.9
All ownerships	4,538.4	2,104.5	2,124.4	242.1	67.4

Table 6. Area of grazed forest range by ecosystem and intensity of herbage utilization, Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Ecosystem	All classes	Herbage utilization		
		Light	Moderate	Heavy
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -				
Longleaf-slash pine	536.8	380.3	128.3	28.2
Loblolly-shortleaf pine	882.0	729.8	129.6	22.6
Oak-pine	390.4	282.8	79.5	28.1
Oak-hickory	284.3	238.7	28.4	17.2
Oak-gum-cypress	334.9	300.4	28.9	5.6
Elm-ash-cottonwood	5.5	...	...	5.5
All ecosystems	2,433.9	1,932.0	394.7	107.2

Table 7. Area of grazed forest range by ownership class and intensity of herbage utilization, Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Ownership	All classes	Herbage utilization		
		Light	Moderate	Heavy
- - - - Thousand acres - - - -				
Public	309.1	272.7	31.5	4.9
Forest industry	825.6	672.5	136.2	16.9
Other private	<u>1,299.2</u>	986.8	227.0	85.4
All ownerships	2,433.9	1,932.0	394.7	107.2

Table 8. Area of grazed forest range by ecosystem and intensity of browse utilization, Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Ecosystem	All classes	Browse utilization		
		Light	Moderate	Heavy
- - - - Thousand acres - - - -				
Longleaf-slash pine	536.8	531.3	...	5.5
Loblolly-shortleaf pine	882.0	851.6	24.9	5.5
Oak-pine	390.4	372.7	17.7	...
Oak-hickory	284.3	278.7	5.6	...
Oak-gum-cypress	334.9	334.9	...	...
Elm-ash-cottonwood	<u>5.5</u>	<u>5.5</u>	...	...
All ecosystems	2,433.9	2,374.7	48.2	11.0

Table 9. Area of grazed forest range by ownership class and intensity of browse utilization, Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Ownership	All classes	Browse utilization		
		Light	Moderate	Heavy
- - - - Thousand acres - - - -				
Public	309.1	303.3	5.8	...
Forest industry	825.6	814.3	5.8	5.5
Other private	<u>1,299.2</u>	<u>1,257.1</u>	36.6	5.5
All ownerships	2,433.9	2,374.7	48.2	11.0

Table 10. *Area of forest range by ecosystem and herbage cover class, Southwest Louisiana, 1974*

Ecosystem	All classes	Percent of herbage cover				
		<20	20-39	40-59	60-79	80+
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -						
Longleaf-slash pine	737.9	120.5	83.2	89.2	137.8	307.2
Loblolly-shortleaf pine	1,574.6	714.4	304.4	231.5	191.4	132.9
Oak-pine	815.7	396.9	117.6	123.4	92.0	85.8
Oak-hickory	588.9	271.2	82.5	84.7	69.4	81.1
Oak-gum-cypress	793.4	479.7	140.7	96.7	56.3	20.0
Elm-ash-cottonwood	27.9	11.2	8.3	5.6	2.8	...
All ecosystems	4,538.4	1,993.9	736.7	631.1	549.7	627.0

Table 11. *Area of forest range by ownership class and herbage cover class, Southwest Louisiana, 1974*

Ownership	All classes	Percent of herbage cover				
		<20	20-39	40-59	60-79	80+
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -						
Public	604.3	251.1	109.8	99.3	73.5	70.6
Forest industry	1,389.8	560.6	263.9	193.7	182.9	188.7
Other private	2,544.3	1,182.2	363.0	338.1	293.3	367.7
All ownerships	4,538.4	1,993.9	736.7	631.1	549.7	627.0

Table 12. *Area of forest range by ecosystem and browse cover class, Southwest Louisiana, 1974*

Ecosystem	All classes	Percent of browse cover				
		<20	20-39	40-59	60-79	80+
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -						
Longleaf-slash pine	737.9	502.3	82.0	76.1	47.1	30.4
Loblolly-shortleaf pine	1,574.6	652.6	362.3	323.3	164.9	71.5
Oak-pine	815.7	318.3	184.0	200.5	79.5	33.4
Oak-hickory	588.9	225.4	141.5	120.4	59.2	42.4
Oak-gum-cypress	793.4	390.9	169.1	159.7	41.0	32.7
Elm-ash-cottonwood	27.9	14.0	7.0	6.9	...	...
All ecosystems	4,538.4	2,103.5	945.9	886.9	391.7	210.4

Table 13. Area of forest range by ownership class and browse cover class, Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Ownership	All classes	Percent of browse cover				
		<20	20-39	40-59	60-79	80+
- - - - Thousand acres - - - -						
Public	604.3	270.1	140.8	130.5	40.2	22.7
Forest industry	1,389.8	596.0	332.1	287.7	119.1	54.9
Other private	2,544.3	1,237.4	473.0	468.7	232.4	132.8
All ownerships	4,538.4	2,103.5	945.9	886.9	391.7	210.4

Table 14. Area of forest range by ecosystem and tree cover class, Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Ecosystem	All classes	Percent of tree cover				
		<20	20-39	40-59	60-79	80+
- - - - Thousand acres - - - -						
Longleaf-slash pine	737.9	...	45.0	90.3	139.6	463.0
Loblolly-shortleaf pine	1,574.6	5.5	16.5	28.1	119.6	1,404.9
Oak-pine	815.7	...	17.5	28.6	50.0	719.6
Oak-hickory	588.9	50.8	11.5	28.3	61.8	436.5
Oak-gum-cypress	793.4	16.9	...	40.3	106.6	629.6
Elm-ash-cottonwood	27.9	...	...	...	...	27.9
All ecosystems	4,538.4	73.2	90.5	215.6	477.6	3,681.5

Table 15. Area of forest range by ownership class and tree cover class, Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Ownership	All classes	Percent of tree cover				
		<20	20-39	40-59	60-79	80+
- - - - Thousand acres - - - -						
Public	604.3	...	4.9	29.7	99.4	470.3
Forest industry	1,389.8	...	22.4	57.5	129.5	1,180.4
Other private	2,544.3	73.2	63.2	128.4	248.7	2,030.8
All ownerships	4,538.4	73.2	90.5	215.6	477.6	3,681.5

Table 16. Area of forest range by ecogroup, tree cover class, and herbage cover class, Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Ecogroup and percent of tree cover class	All classes	Percent of herbage cover					
		<20	20-39	40-59	60-79	80+	
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -							
<b>Pine:</b>							
<20	5.4	...	...	...	2.7	2.7	
20-39	61.3	...	4.1	8.2	13.8	35.2	
40-59	118.3	7.0	9.5	18.1	20.8	62.9	
60-79	259.3	28.1	31.1	38.8	58.7	102.6	
80+	<u>1,868.2</u>	<u>799.8</u>	<u>342.9</u>	<u>255.6</u>	<u>233.2</u>	<u>236.7</u>	
Total	<u>2,312.5</u>	<u>834.9</u>	<u>387.6</u>	<u>320.7</u>	<u>329.2</u>	<u>440.1</u>	
<b>Hardwood:</b>							
<20	67.8	12.6	1.4	8.4	11.2	34.2	
20-39	29.2	1.5	2.8	1.4	7.3	16.2	
40-59	97.3	31.8	4.5	7.0	26.8	27.2	
60-79	218.3	82.5	35.0	49.2	29.3	22.3	
80+	<u>1,813.3</u>	<u>1,030.6</u>	<u>305.4</u>	<u>244.4</u>	<u>145.9</u>	<u>87.0</u>	
Total	<u>2,225.9</u>	<u>1,159.0</u>	<u>349.1</u>	<u>310.4</u>	<u>220.5</u>	<u>186.9</u>	
<b>All ecogroups:</b>							
<20	73.2	12.6	1.4	8.4	13.9	36.9	
20-39	90.5	1.5	6.9	9.6	21.1	51.4	
40-59	215.6	38.8	14.0	25.1	47.6	90.1	
60-79	477.6	110.6	66.1	88.0	88.0	124.9	
80+	<u>3,681.5</u>	<u>1,830.4</u>	<u>648.3</u>	<u>500.0</u>	<u>379.1</u>	<u>323.7</u>	
Total	<u>4,538.4</u>	<u>1,993.9</u>	<u>736.7</u>	<u>631.1</u>	<u>549.7</u>	<u>627.0</u>	

Table 17. Frequency of occurrence of understory vegetation on forest range by ecosystem,  
Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Understory vegetation	All eco-systems	Longleaf-slash pine	Loblolly-shortleaf pine	Oak-pine	Oak-hickory	Oak-gum-cypress	Elm-ash-cottonwood
- - - - - Percent <sup>1</sup> - - - - -							
<b>Herbage:</b>							
Slender bluestem	12.5	35.0	10.8	8.3	11.4	0.4	...
Broomsedge bluestem	10.7	28.7	8.5	10.1	9.0	.5	...
Other bluestem	25.4	55.4	31.5	17.2	18.4	.2	...
Uniola	18.2	2.3	18.9	25.9	29.4	16.0	5.0
Panicum	42.6	72.1	43.8	41.1	40.3	17.0	25.0
Cutover muhly	4.2	12.1	3.8	2.3	4.1	...	...
Carpetgrass	9.0	14.8	9.4	11.5	7.8	1.8	...
Threawn	7.4	15.0	8.3	5.0	7.8	.9	...
Other grass	37.6	57.3	40.1	39.0	29.1	20.2	15.0
Grasslike	39.2	39.4	33.5	40.8	39.3	47.7	55.0
Legume	27.9	40.8	37.4	23.6	22.6	6.7	5.0
Other forbs	70.5	88.3	72.4	71.3	68.7	50.7	80.0
All herbage	87.1	95.6	89.4	88.7	85.7	74.5	85.0
<b>Browse:</b>							
Yaupon	1.8	1.5	2.6	1.1	1.0	1.8	...
French mulberry	9.4	1.9	10.5	12.9	15.5	6.0	5.0
Elliott blueberry	7.1	1.5	9.1	9.6	9.2	3.9	15.0
Waxmyrtle	13.1	22.1	15.2	10.8	14.6	2.1	...
Sumac	3.4	4.0	4.1	5.0	2.7	.2	5.0
Dogwood	3.8	1.0	3.9	7.1	5.3	2.1	...
Hawthorn	6.5	1.0	8.7	8.7	5.1	6.0	5.0
Oak	24.5	6.2	30.8	29.6	30.8	19.7	10.0
Other shrubs & trees	51.4	15.8	53.2	64.5	58.3	62.8	40.0
Blackberry	17.9	21.2	21.5	15.2	18.7	9.9	15.0
Greenbrier	21.9	5.3	21.0	24.8	29.6	30.1	20.0
Other vines	45.1	20.0	51.3	45.0	44.9	55.7	65.0
All browse	81.9	57.5	86.6	88.3	88.1	84.2	80.0
<b>Pine reproduction:</b>							
Longleaf	.4	1.0	.6	.4	...	...	...
Slash	.4	2.3	...	...	.2	...	...
Loblolly	6.5	1.9	11.5	8.9	3.6	1.2	...
Shortleaf	.8	.2	1.4	1.1	1.0	...	...
All pine	8.2	5.3	13.5	10.3	4.9	1.2	...

<sup>1</sup>Expressed as percent of occurrence on all sample plots within specified ecosystem.

Table 18. Botanical composition of understory vegetation on forest range by ecosystem, Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Understory vegetation	All eco-systems	Longleaf-slash pine	Loblolly-shortleaf pine	Oak-pine	Oak-hickory	Oak-gum-cypress	Elm-ash-cottonwood
- - - - - Percent - - - - -							
<b>Herbage:</b>							
Slender bluestem	4.7	9.4	3.3	2.8	4.8	( <sup>1</sup> )	...
Broomsedge bluestem	4.2	7.0	3.2	4.2	3.7	0.2	...
Other bluestem	11.2	14.0	15.7	7.2	8.0	.1	...
Uniola	7.3	.4	8.0	11.6	11.4	12.2	1.4
Panicum	14.3	17.6	13.4	14.2	15.3	8.1	7.5
Cutover muhly	2.1	3.8	2.0	.8	2.4	...	...
Carpetgrass	4.7	4.2	4.8	7.6	4.5	1.4	...
Threeawn	2.3	2.7	2.4	1.9	2.3	.4	...
Other grass	11.5	10.3	12.4	12.2	9.8	12.8	5.5
Grasslike	12.9	8.0	8.8	14.2	13.3	35.6	42.6
Legume	5.4	5.5	7.0	4.6	4.7	3.0	.3
Other forbs	<u>19.4</u>	<u>17.1</u>	<u>19.0</u>	<u>18.7</u>	<u>19.8</u>	<u>26.2</u>	<u>42.7</u>
All herbage	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Browse:</b>							
Yaupon	.9	1.2	1.2	.5	.1	1.5	...
French mulberry	4.7	1.4	4.7	5.7	7.3	3.0	5.6
Elliott blueberry	3.6	1.4	4.6	3.8	4.3	1.5	6.4
Waxmyrtle	10.0	31.8	9.5	7.0	10.2	1.3	...
Sumac	1.7	3.5	1.9	2.1	1.0	.1	1.4
Dogwood	1.8	1.2	1.9	2.4	2.4	.8	...
Hawthorn	3.0	.9	3.8	3.7	2.3	2.1	2.8
Oak	10.0	5.1	11.1	11.4	11.8	7.1	5.1
Other shrubs & trees	28.6	15.6	26.3	34.2	29.0	35.3	21.4
Blackberry	9.0	21.4	8.9	5.5	8.9	5.5	12.4
Greenbrier	6.6	3.7	5.6	6.7	7.3	10.0	6.7
Other vines	<u>20.1</u>	<u>12.8</u>	<u>20.5</u>	<u>17.0</u>	<u>15.4</u>	<u>31.8</u>	<u>38.2</u>
All browse	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

<sup>1</sup>Negligible.

Table 19. Area of forest range by herbage condition and productivity classes, Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Herbage condition class	All areas	Productivity class			
		High	Moderately high	Moderately low	Low
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -					
1	218.1	27.6	100.6	85.7	4.2
2	690.7	80.0	260.5	333.5	16.7
3	845.6	86.0	245.8	434.2	79.6
4	1,190.4	130.5	386.7	565.8	107.4
5	<u>1,593.6</u>	<u>330.2</u>	<u>646.1</u>	<u>514.2</u>	<u>103.1</u>
All classes	4,538.4	654.3	1,639.7	1,933.4	311.0

Table 20. Area of forest range by ecosystem, herbage condition class, and productivity class, Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Ecosystem and herbage condition class	All classes	Productivity class				
		High	Moderately high	Moderately low	Low	
----- Thousand acres -----						
<b>Longleaf-slash pine:</b>						
Class 1	22.2	2.7	2.7	14.0	2.8	
Class 2	88.3	2.7	27.0	54.4	4.2	
Class 3	274.1	16.8	63.9	151.3	42.1	
Class 4	246.2	12.7	81.8	122.5	29.2	
Class 5	107.1	4.2	65.8	31.5	5.6	
Total	737.9	39.1	241.2	373.7	83.9	
<b>Loblolly-shortleaf pine:</b>						
Class 1	96.8	9.9	43.7	41.8	1.4	
Class 2	288.5	28.1	116.2	135.9	8.3	
Class 3	305.6	24.0	104.2	155.4	22.0	
Class 4	405.5	52.7	142.4	195.4	15.0	
Class 5	478.2	106.2	224.7	137.0	10.3	
Total	1,574.6	220.9	631.2	665.5	57.0	
<b>Oak-pine:</b>						
Class 1	44.2	8.9	24.1	11.2	...	
Class 2	130.0	26.4	46.9	56.7	...	
Class 3	124.1	23.5	31.0	62.5	7.1	
Class 4	248.3	33.0	72.5	125.1	17.7	
Class 5	269.1	88.1	103.2	73.1	4.7	
Total	815.7	179.9	277.7	328.6	29.5	
<b>Oak-hickory:</b>						
Class 1	34.7	...	21.5	13.2	...	
Class 2	129.4	12.5	47.3	66.8	2.8	
Class 3	87.9	6.8	26.7	46.0	8.4	
Class 4	130.3	11.2	44.8	61.9	12.4	
Class 5	206.6	47.5	92.8	55.2	11.1	
Total	588.9	78.0	233.1	243.1	34.7	
<b>Oak-gum-cypress:</b>						
Class 1	20.2	6.1	8.6	5.5	...	
Class 2	54.5	10.3	23.1	19.7	1.4	
Class 3	52.5	14.9	18.6	19.0	...	
Class 4	154.5	19.5	42.4	59.5	33.1	
Class 5	511.7	74.4	152.7	213.2	71.4	
Total	793.4	125.2	245.4	316.9	105.9	
<b>Elm-ash-cottonwood:</b>						
Class 1	...	...	...	...	...	
Class 2	...	...	...	...	...	
Class 3	1.4	...	1.4	...	...	
Class 4	5.6	1.4	2.8	1.4	...	
Class 5	20.9	9.8	6.9	4.2	...	
Total	27.9	11.2	11.1	5.6	...	
All ecosystems	4,538.4	654.3	1,639.7	1,933.4	311.0	

Table 21. *Area of forest range by ownership class and herbage condition class, Southwest Louisiana, 1974*

Ownership	All classes	Herbage condition class				
		1	2	3	4	5
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -						
Public	604.3	35.9	129.2	87.1	172.4	179.7
Forest industry	1,389.8	61.1	204.1	297.5	414.4	412.7
Other private	<u>2,544.3</u>	<u>121.1</u>	<u>357.4</u>	<u>461.0</u>	<u>603.6</u>	<u>1,001.2</u>
All ownerships	4,538.4	218.1	690.7	845.6	1,190.4	1,593.6

Table 22. *Area of forest range by browse condition and productivity classes, Southwest Louisiana, 1974*

Browse condition class	All areas	Productivity class			
		High	Moderately high	Moderately low	Low
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -					
1	509.3	97.8	222.9	174.5	14.1
2	968.2	178.3	378.3	358.4	53.2
3	849.1	184.2	316.6	316.8	31.5
4	360.3	52.7	152.2	145.9	9.5
5	<u>1,851.5</u>	<u>141.3</u>	<u>569.7</u>	<u>937.8</u>	<u>202.7</u>
All classes	4,538.4	654.3	1,639.7	1,933.4	311.0

Table 23. Area of forest range by ecosystem, browse condition class, and productivity class, Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Ecosystem and browse condition class	All classes	Productivity class				
		High	Moderately high	Moderately low	Low	
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -						
<b>Longleaf-slash pine:</b>						
Class 1	21.9	...	15.9	4.6	1.4	
Class 2	86.8	8.2	42.0	35.2	1.4	
Class 3	40.0	5.5	20.3	11.3	2.9	
Class 4	52.0	5.7	22.7	23.6	...	
Class 5	537.2	19.7	140.3	299.0	78.2	
Total	737.9	39.1	241.2	373.7	83.9	
<b>Loblolly-shortleaf pine:</b>						
Class 1	194.2	35.6	90.7	67.9	...	
Class 2	321.6	59.7	132.3	119.9	9.7	
Class 3	360.0	61.0	145.4	145.1	8.5	
Class 4	157.1	21.0	69.9	63.5	2.7	
Class 5	541.7	43.6	192.9	269.1	36.1	
Total	1,574.6	220.9	631.2	665.5	57.0	
<b>Oak-pine:</b>						
Class 1	95.1	28.8	35.0	29.7	1.6	
Class 2	185.5	47.7	76.4	59.8	1.6	
Class 3	178.2	60.2	58.1	56.9	3.0	
Class 4	69.8	8.7	25.3	34.4	1.4	
Class 5	287.1	34.5	82.9	147.8	21.9	
Total	815.7	179.9	277.7	328.6	29.5	
<b>Oak-hickory:</b>						
Class 1	68.8	11.0	28.9	28.9	...	
Class 2	133.6	19.8	70.3	38.8	4.7	
Class 3	123.0	20.9	49.9	47.8	4.4	
Class 4	50.0	8.3	20.2	18.8	2.7	
Class 5	213.5	18.0	63.8	108.8	22.9	
Total	588.9	78.0	233.1	243.1	34.7	
<b>Oak-gum-cypress:</b>						
Class 1	123.7	22.4	46.8	43.4	11.1	
Class 2	233.7	38.7	55.9	103.3	35.8	
Class 3	142.4	33.8	40.2	55.7	12.7	
Class 4	31.4	9.0	14.1	5.6	2.7	
Class 5	262.2	21.3	88.4	108.9	43.6	
Total	793.4	125.2	245.4	316.9	105.9	
<b>Elm-ash-cottonwood:</b>						
Class 1	5.6	...	5.6	...	...	
Class 2	7.0	4.2	1.4	1.4	...	
Class 3	5.5	2.8	2.7	...	...	
Class 4	...	...	...	...	...	
Class 5	9.8	4.2	1.4	4.2	...	
Total	27.9	11.2	11.1	5.6	...	
All ecosystems	4,538.4	654.3	1,639.7	1,933.4	311.0	

Table 24. Area of forest range by ownership class and browse condition class, Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Ownership	All classes	Browse condition class				
		1	2	3	4	5
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -						
Public	604.3	84.1	160.0	96.6	45.4	218.2
Forest industry	1,389.8	149.9	310.1	296.4	123.3	510.1
Other private	2,544.3	275.3	498.1	456.1	191.6	1,123.2
All ownerships	4,538.4	509.3	968.2	849.1	360.3	1,851.5

Table 25. Area of forest range by board-foot volume class and ecogroup, Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Board feet per acre <sup>1</sup>	All ecogroups	Pine			Hardwood		
		Total	Grazed	Ungrazed	Total	Grazed	Ungrazed
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -							
Less than 1,500	1,558.5	834.4	632.8	201.6	724.1	425.0	299.1
1,500 - 5,000	1,499.3	646.8	429.5	217.3	852.5	342.6	509.9
More than 5,000	1,480.6	831.3	356.5	474.8	649.3	247.5	401.8
All classes	4,538.4	2,312.5	1,418.8	893.7	2,225.9	1,015.1	1,210.8

<sup>1</sup>International 1/4-inch rule.

Table 26. Area of grazed and ungrazed forest range by stand-size class and ecogroup, Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Stand-size class	All ecogroups	Pine			Hardwood		
		Total	Grazed	Ungrazed	Total	Grazed	Ungrazed
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -							
Sawtimber	2,262.5	1,151.5	569.5	582.0	1,111.0	434.7	676.3
Poletimber	1,092.6	630.6	433.6	197.0	462.0	194.5	267.5
Sapling and seedling	1,080.8	524.9	410.2	114.7	555.9	356.6	199.3
Nonstocked	102.5	5.5	5.5	...	97.0	29.3	67.7
All classes	4,538.4	2,312.5	1,418.8	893.7	2,225.9	1,015.1	1,210.8

Table 27. Area of forest range by stand-size and herbage condition classes, Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Stand-size class	All classes	Herbage condition class				
		1	2	3	4	5
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -						
Sawtimber	2,262.5	105.0	352.7	289.2	493.3	1,022.3
Poletimber	1,092.6	67.5	161.4	229.2	281.1	353.4
Sapling and seedling	1,080.8	45.6	166.6	307.2	374.7	186.7
Nonstocked	102.5	...	10.0	20.0	41.3	31.2
All stands	4,538.4	218.1	690.7	845.6	1,190.4	1,593.6

Table 28. Growing-stock volume on grazed and ungrazed forest range by ecosystem and species group, Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Ecosystem	Total	Grazed			Ungrazed		
		All species	Softwood	Hardwood	All species	Softwood	Hardwood
- - - - - Million cubic feet - - - - -							
Longleaf-slash pine	673.3	460.3	455.8	4.5	213.0	208.0	5.0
Loblolly-shortleaf pine	2,144.1	988.0	849.7	138.3	1,156.1	1,013.2	142.9
Oak-pine	905.7	383.9	228.5	155.4	521.8	323.8	198.0
Oak-hickory	442.6	170.1	50.9	119.2	272.5	71.5	201.0
Oak-gum-cypress	841.9	296.5	43.7	252.8	545.4	101.3	444.1
Elm-ash-cottonwood	23.4	8.5	...	8.5	14.9	...	14.9
All ecosystems	5,031.0	2,307.3	1,628.6	678.7	2,723.7	1,717.8	1,005.9

Table 29. Yearlong animal unit month potential by ecosystem and ownership class, Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Ecosystem	All ownerships	Public	Forest industry	Other private
- - - - - AUM's - - - - -				
Longleaf-slash pine	376,187	48,787	149,873	177,527
Loblolly-shortleaf pine	428,326	68,153	140,240	219,933
Oak-pine	223,060	26,233	69,133	127,694
Oak-hickory	172,760	9,367	46,373	117,020
Oak-gum-cypress	146,840	28,600	23,220	95,020
Elm-ash-cottonwood	6,574	...	907	5,667
All ecosystems	1,353,747	181,140	429,746	742,861

Table 30. Seasonal animal unit month potential by ecosystem and ownership class, Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Ecosystem	All ownerships	Public	Forest industry	Other private
- - - - - AUM's - - - - -				
Longleaf-slash pine	501,582	65,049	199,831	236,702
Loblolly-shortleaf pine	571,102	90,871	186,987	293,244
Oak-pine	297,414	34,978	92,178	170,258
Oak-hickory	230,347	12,489	61,831	156,027
Oak-gum-cypress	195,786	38,133	30,960	126,693
Elm-ash-cottonwood	8,765	...	1,209	7,556
All ecosystems	1,804,996	241,520	572,996	990,480

Table 31. Herbage yield by ecosystem and ownership class, Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Ecosystem	All ownerships	Public	Forest industry	Other private
- - - - - Tons per year - - - - -				
Longleaf-slash pine	564,280	73,180	224,810	266,290
Loblolly-shortleaf pine	642,490	102,230	210,360	329,900
Oak-pine	334,590	39,350	103,700	191,540
Oak-hickory	259,140	14,050	69,560	175,530
Oak-gum-cypress	220,260	42,900	34,830	142,530
Elm-ash-cottonwood	9,860	...	1,360	8,500
All ecosystems	2,030,620	271,710	644,620	1,114,290

Table 32. *Area of forest range and improved pasture by parish, Southwest Louisiana, 1974*

Parish	Total area <sup>1</sup>	Forest range	Improved pasture	Other areas
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -				
Allen	496.0	346.5	41.1	108.4
Beauregard	757.8	614.8	66.4	76.6
Calcasieu	714.9	192.5	72.8	449.6
Evangeline	435.2	200.6	7.4	227.2
Grant	435.8	356.4	14.8	64.6
Jefferson Davis	423.0	68.2	64.9	289.9
La Salle	427.5	357.5	17.5	52.5
Natchitoches	849.9	599.2	124.9	125.8
Rapides	849.3	576.8	108.8	163.7
Sabine	658.6	477.9	56.2	124.5
Vernon	870.4	748.0	32.8	89.6
All parishes	6,918.4	4,538.4	607.6	1,772.4

<sup>1</sup>Source: United States Bureau of the Census.

Table 33. *Area of forest range by ownership class and parish, Southwest Louisiana, 1974*

Parish	All ownerships	Public	Forest industry	Other private
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -				
Allen	346.5	0.3	99.0	247.2
Beauregard	614.8	1.8	197.2	415.8
Calcasieu	192.5	9.6	60.5	122.4
Evangeline	200.6	4.2	41.3	155.1
Grant	356.4	141.2	85.8	129.4
Jefferson Davis	68.2	.1	...	68.1
La Salle	357.5	51.2	253.0	53.3
Natchitoches	599.2	134.7	112.0	352.5
Rapides	576.8	120.4	50.4	406.0
Sabine	477.9	10.8	259.6	207.5
Vernon	748.0	130.0	231.0	387.0
All parishes	4,538.4	604.3	1,389.8	2,544.3

Table 34. *Area of forest range by ecosystem and parish, Southwest Louisiana, 1974*

Parish	All eco-systems	Longleaf-slash pine	Loblolly-shortleaf pine	Oak-pine	Oak-hickory	Oak-gum-cypress	Elm-ash-cottonwood
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -							
Allen	346.5	66.0	82.5	60.5	49.5	88.0	...
Beauregard	614.8	284.2	98.6	63.8	63.8	104.4	...
Calcasieu	192.5	55.0	38.5	22.0	33.0	44.0	...
Evangeline	200.6	23.6	64.9	47.2	17.7	47.2	...
Grant	356.4	26.4	158.4	92.4	33.0	46.2	...
Jefferson Davis	68.2	...	18.6	24.8	12.4	12.4	...
La Salle	357.5	5.5	159.5	49.5	33.0	110.0	...
Natchitoches	599.2	22.4	235.2	145.6	89.6	89.6	16.8
Rapides	576.8	56.0	196.0	100.8	56.0	162.4	5.6
Sabine	477.9	11.8	241.9	82.6	123.9	17.7	...
Vernon	748.0	187.0	280.5	126.5	77.0	71.5	5.5
All parishes	4,538.4	737.9	1,574.6	815.7	588.9	793.4	27.9

Table 35. Area of grazed and ungrazed forest range by ecogroup and parish, Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Parish	All ecogroups	Pine			Hardwood		
		Total	Grazed	Ungrazed	Total	Grazed	Ungrazed
- - - - Thousand acres - - - -							
Allen	346.5	148.5	88.0	60.5	198.0	60.5	137.5
Beauregard	614.8	382.8	237.7	145.1	232.0	98.6	133.4
Calcasieu	192.5	93.5	55.0	38.5	99.0	33.0	66.0
Evangeline	200.6	89.1	77.2	11.9	111.5	111.5	...
Grant	356.4	184.7	72.6	112.1	171.7	39.6	132.1
Jefferson Davis	68.2	18.6	6.2	12.4	49.6	31.0	18.6
La Salle	357.5	164.9	159.4	5.5	192.6	143.1	49.5
Natchitoches	599.2	257.4	95.1	162.3	341.8	89.7	252.1
Rapides	576.8	251.9	184.8	67.1	324.9	156.8	168.1
Sabine	477.9	253.7	123.9	129.8	224.2	135.7	88.5
Vernon	748.0	467.4	318.9	148.5	280.6	115.6	165.0
All parishes	4,538.4	2,312.5	1,418.8	893.7	2,225.9	1,015.1	1,210.8

Table 36. Area of grazed and ungrazed forest range by burning history and parish, Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Parish	All areas	Grazed			Ungrazed		
		Total	Burned	Unburned	Total	Burned	Unburned
- - - - Thousand acres - - - -							
Allen	346.5	148.5	71.5	77.0	198.0	11.0	187.0
Beauregard	614.8	336.3	174.0	162.3	278.5	63.8	214.7
Calcasieu	192.5	88.0	5.6	82.4	104.5	5.5	99.0
Evangeline	200.6	188.7	40.2	148.5	11.9	...	11.9
Grant	356.4	112.2	26.5	85.7	244.2	...	244.2
Jefferson Davis	68.2	37.2	24.8	12.4	31.0	...	31.0
La Salle	357.5	302.5	11.1	291.4	55.0	...	55.0
Natchitoches	599.2	184.8	11.3	173.5	414.4	11.2	403.2
Rapides	576.8	341.6	84.1	257.5	235.2	5.6	229.6
Sabine	477.9	259.6	11.9	247.7	218.3	...	218.3
Vernon	748.0	434.5	126.6	307.9	313.5	44.0	269.5
All parishes	4,538.4	2,433.9	587.6	1,846.3	2,104.5	141.1	1,963.4

Table 37. *Area of forest range by productivity class and parish,  
Southwest Louisiana, 1974*

Parish	All classes	Productivity class			
		High	Moderately high	Moderately low	Low
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -					
Allen	346.5	82.5	126.5	115.5	22.0
Beauregard	614.8	92.8	249.4	243.6	29.0
Calcasieu	192.5	27.5	27.5	93.5	44.0
Evangeline	200.6	47.2	88.5	59.0	5.9
Grant	356.4	26.4	125.4	178.2	26.4
Jefferson Davis	68.2	18.6	18.6	24.8	6.2
La Salle	357.5	...	27.5	247.5	82.5
Natchitoches	599.2	95.2	268.8	218.4	16.8
Rapides	576.8	67.2	201.6	285.6	22.4
Sabine	477.9	64.9	241.9	159.3	11.8
Vernon	748.0	132.0	264.0	308.0	44.0
All parishes	4,538.4	654.3	1,639.7	1,933.4	311.0

Table 38. *Area of forest range by herbage condition class and parish,  
Southwest Louisiana, 1974*

Parish	All classes	Herbage condition class				
		1	2	3	4	5
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -						
Allen	346.5	17.8	23.4	88.0	84.0	133.3
Beauregard	614.8	14.5	78.2	165.4	187.1	169.6
Calcasieu	192.5	5.5	8.1	41.3	57.9	79.7
Evangeline	200.6	17.8	32.6	26.7	37.3	86.2
Grant	356.4	23.1	64.4	33.0	92.4	143.5
Jefferson Davis	68.2	4.6	3.1	6.2	21.8	32.5
La Salle	357.5	1.4	43.9	79.8	126.5	105.9
Natchitoches	599.2	57.3	132.9	63.1	79.9	266.0
Rapides	576.8	15.3	89.5	96.7	165.3	210.0
Sabine	477.9	26.5	64.7	50.2	155.1	181.4
Vernon	748.0	34.3	149.9	195.2	183.1	185.5
All parishes	4,538.4	218.1	690.7	845.6	1,190.4	1,593.6

Table 39. *Area of forest range by browse condition class and parish, Southwest Louisiana, 1974*

Parish	All classes	Browse condition class				
		1	2	3	4	5
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -						
Allen	346.5	38.5	65.9	53.7	46.8	141.6
Beauregard	614.8	26.1	95.6	58.0	49.3	385.8
Calcasieu	192.5	9.7	16.4	19.3	13.7	133.4
Evangeline	200.6	37.1	44.5	38.7	20.8	59.5
Grant	356.4	67.6	92.2	72.8	19.8	104.0
Jefferson Davis	68.2	7.8	13.8	12.5	9.3	24.8
La Salle	357.5	31.7	115.4	86.6	22.0	101.8
Natchitoches	599.2	70.1	159.4	107.9	46.2	215.6
Rapides	576.8	75.6	117.5	117.7	36.4	229.6
Sabine	477.9	90.0	125.3	160.7	35.5	66.4
Vernon	748.0	55.1	122.2	121.2	60.5	389.0
All parishes	4,538.4	509.3	968.2	849.1	360.3	1,851.5

Table 40. *Area of forest range by herbage cover class and parish, Southwest Louisiana, 1974*

Parish	All classes	Percent of herbage cover				
		<20	20-39	40-59	60-79	80+
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -						
Allen	346.5	160.9	46.7	57.7	44.0	37.2
Beauregard	614.8	178.4	76.8	40.6	75.3	243.7
Calcasieu	192.5	81.2	24.7	33.0	27.5	26.1
Evangeline	200.6	111.5	20.8	14.8	20.8	32.7
Grant	356.4	214.5	54.4	51.1	24.8	11.6
Jefferson Davis	68.2	35.7	9.2	3.1	9.3	10.9
La Salle	357.5	115.5	103.1	82.5	38.5	17.9
Natchitoches	599.2	261.8	130.2	106.4	67.2	33.6
Rapides	576.8	282.8	79.8	79.8	85.4	49.0
Sabine	477.9	287.6	79.6	59.0	42.8	8.9
Vernon	748.0	264.0	111.4	103.1	114.1	155.4
All parishes	4,538.4	1,993.9	736.7	631.1	549.7	627.0

Table 41. Area of forest range by browse cover class and parish,  
Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Parish	All classes	Percent of browse cover				
		<20	20-39	40-59	60-79	80+
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -						
Allen	346.5	167.8	74.2	60.5	28.9	15.1
Beauregard	614.8	365.4	65.2	81.2	55.1	47.9
Calcasieu	192.5	133.4	26.1	22.0	8.3	2.7
Evangeline	200.6	104.0	29.7	20.8	22.3	23.8
Grant	356.4	143.5	99.0	79.2	23.1	11.6
Jefferson Davis	68.2	29.5	26.4	9.2	3.1	...
La Salle	357.5	112.7	86.6	118.3	37.2	2.7
Natchitoches	599.2	235.3	158.1	144.2	46.2	15.4
Rapides	576.8	278.6	102.2	106.4	53.2	36.4
Sabine	477.9	157.9	151.9	106.2	44.2	17.7
Vernon	748.0	375.4	126.5	138.9	70.1	37.1
All parishes	4,538.4	2,103.5	945.9	886.9	391.7	210.4

Table 42. Area of forest range by tree cover class and parish,  
Southwest Louisiana, 1974

Parish	All classes	Percent of tree cover				
		<20	20-39	40-59	60-79	80+
- - - - - Thousand acres - - - - -						
Allen	346.5	5.5	5.5	11.0	49.5	275.0
Beauregard	614.8	23.2	29.0	75.4	52.2	435.0
Calcasieu	192.5	5.5	11.0	11.0	60.5	104.5
Evangeline	200.6	...	...	...	11.8	188.8
Grant	356.4	...	...	6.6	19.8	330.0
Jefferson Davis	68.2	...	6.2	...	...	62.0
La Salle	357.5	...	...	...	60.5	297.0
Natchitoches	599.2	...	5.6	11.2	39.2	543.2
Rapides	576.8	28.0	11.2	33.6	56.0	448.0
Sabine	477.9	...	...	11.8	23.6	442.5
Vernon	748.0	11.0	22.0	55.0	104.5	555.5
All parishes	4,538.4	73.2	90.5	215.6	477.6	3,681.5

Table 43. *Area of grazed forest range by intensity of herbage utilization and parish, Southwest Louisiana, 1974*

Parish	All classes	Herbage utilization		
		Light	Moderate	Heavy
- - - - Thousand acres - - - -				
Allen	148.5	82.4	66.1	...
Beauregard	336.3	243.5	75.4	17.4
Calcasieu	88.0	60.5	5.5	22.0
Evangeline	188.7	178.1	6.1	4.5
Grant	112.2	72.6	33.0	6.6
Jefferson Davis	37.2	24.7	12.5	...
La Salle	302.5	253.0	44.0	5.5
Natchitoches	184.8	162.3	11.3	11.2
Rapides	341.6	291.1	33.7	16.8
Sabine	259.6	206.4	35.5	17.7
Vernon	434.5	357.4	71.6	5.5
All parishes	2,433.9	1,932.0	394.7	107.2

Table 44. *Area of grazed forest range by intensity of browse utilization and parish, Southwest Louisiana, 1974*

Parish	All classes	Browse utilization		
		Light	Moderate	Heavy
- - - - Thousand acres - - - -				
Allen	148.5	143.0	5.5	...
Beauregard	336.3	324.7	11.6	...
Calcasieu	88.0	77.0	...	11.0
Evangeline	188.7	188.7	...	...
Grant	112.2	92.4	19.8	...
Jefferson Davis	37.2	37.2	...	...
La Salle	302.5	302.5	...	...
Natchitoches	184.8	179.1	5.7	...
Rapides	341.6	341.6	...	...
Sabine	259.6	259.6	...	...
Vernon	434.5	428.9	5.6	...
All parishes	2,433.9	2,374.7	48.2	11.0

Table 45. *Growing-stock volume on grazed and ungrazed forest range by species group and parish, Southwest Louisiana, 1974*

Parish	Total	Grazed			Ungrazed		
		All species	Softwood	Hardwood	All species	Softwood	Hardwood
- - - - - Million cubic feet - - - - -							
Allen	429.3	125.1	110.1	15.0	304.2	177.4	126.8
Beauregard	592.2	278.8	223.0	55.8	313.4	218.8	94.6
Calcasieu	139.3	48.2	31.7	16.5	91.1	45.7	45.4
Evangeline	265.8	238.1	140.4	97.7	27.7	26.1	1.6
Grant	520.2	150.3	119.2	31.1	369.9	236.9	133.0
Jefferson Davis	84.7	36.1	22.3	13.8	48.6	25.6	23.0
La Salle	363.5	336.6	218.4	118.2	26.9	5.5	21.4
Natchitoches	669.3	148.2	98.7	49.5	521.1	344.7	176.4
Rapides	608.3	327.4	214.6	112.8	280.9	128.4	152.5
Sabine	666.1	311.7	204.5	107.2	354.4	259.9	94.5
Vernon	692.3	306.8	245.7	61.1	385.5	248.8	136.7
All parishes	5,031.0	2,307.3	1,628.6	678.7	2,723.7	1,717.8	1,005.9

## A New Venture In Forest Resources Inventory

The Forest Survey has been engaged since 1928 in the continuous inventory of the Nation's timber resources. Not until 1973, however, did it conduct multiple-use inventories of range and wildlife habitat as well as of timber. At that time, the Forest Resources and the Range Management Research Work Units of the Southern Forest Experiment Station initiated a large-scale field test on some 7 million acres in southwestern Louisiana. This Coastal Plain region is probably unexcelled in its ability to produce forage and timber simultaneously.

To systematically appraise forest-range resources, it is essential to have a uniform framework of land inventory. The Forest Survey presently has the only forest resource classification system in the United States with an associated and continuously updated land base. It was therefore concluded that the existing field design of the Forest Survey provides the most efficient basis for evaluating understory vegetation. Further, it was evident that for greatest utility the timber classifications must be directly related to the understory classifications. The Louisiana test conforms to these criteria.

It is hoped that this pioneering effort will provide a foundation for similar investigations elsewhere.



Sternitzke, Herbert S., and Pearson, Henry A.

1974. Forest-range resource statistics for southwest Louisiana parishes. South. For. Exp. Stn., New Orleans, La. 22 p. (USDA For. Serv. Resour. Bull. SO-50)

Detailed forest-range tabulations as of 1974.

**Additional keywords:** Area, range condition, understory vegetation, herbage yield, AUM potential.